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USDRIP / Riverway Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 16, 2008

1. Attendees:

Robin Rierdan, Frank Hilliker, Harold Hilliker, Steve Halfaker, Carl Stiehl, Joe Farace, Matt Schneider, Ed Duling, Rick Smith, Mark Baker, Kevin Hale, George Tockstein, Maryanne Vancio, Rick Lantis, Diana Perez, Andy Parr.

2. Updates

- Robin announced the new trail grants that the River Park has worked on obtaining. These grants will go a long way towards getting the trail built especially in the specific locations she discussed, such as the portions of the trail located directly west of Channel Road and the to be determined portions of the trail between Channel and the 67. The question was asked by the stakeholders whether there was a downside to these grants and it would appear there isn't. Therefore, the grants are a good project with a large upside for USDRIP. As this is a priority for the Redevelopment Agency (trails and parks) and the stakeholders themselves, the group of stakeholders agreed that we should support the River Park in their efforts with these grants and issue a letter of support on behalf of the stakeholders. DPLU staff will prepare this letter.
- Carl announced that along with these trail grants, the Redevelopment Agency is now working on starting a trail alignment study for the portion of the trail from Channel to 67. This trial alignment study will be necessary to determine the exact location of the trail and work toward development of this important link.
- A small subcommittee of DPLU and Rick Smith met to discuss the previous USDRIP Improvements that the stakeholders discussed at the last meeting. At the last meeting it was agreed to have Rick on the subcommittee along with Bruce Robertson and DPLU. Apparently Bruce is out of town and we were unaware of this before planning the meeting. A few specific locations for Riverway signs were identified and discussed. The Redevelopment Area could start working on each sign on a one-by-one basis starting next year. DPLU staff will now research the specific locations and their issues. It appears all or most of the sign locations would be located in Caltrans right-of-ways. Therefore, we will most likely

need encroachment permits. DPLU will begin work on this and report back to the stakeholders about the specific locations at the next meeting.

- Mark Kennedy brought to the attention of DPLU that some trucks and trailers were parking over-night on Riverford Road before the meeting. The question was put to the stakeholders whether or not there have been parking issues on any other streets. Industry was mentioned. Therefore, DPLU staff will work with DPW staff to determine an appropriate course of action. This may be a part DPW issue and part Sheriff issue.

- Active Site Plans

Silver Sage Affordable Housing – is back on, we are reviewing the initial submittal that came in two months ago per the applicant's request. We understand that the community likes this design better as it does have the garages.

Witherow Roofing – we got the iteration letter out on-time with good work from DPW. The outstanding issues are Noise, Traffic and some Landscaping. However we anticipate the applicant to have addressed all of these issues by early next year.

The other Site Plans in USDRIP are not active at this time as they are all out with the applicant for response.

- The September meeting with Supervisor Jacob, District 2 staff and DPLU went well. We gave an update on everything we've been working on in USDRIP in the past year. Supervisor Jacob and DCAO Chandra Waller seemed pleased with the progress we have made in the past year and gave us support to continue in our efforts on current projects.

3. Other

- Devon Muto will attend the next meeting. Devon will give a Chief's update about DPLU and the long-range goals for USDRIP. Please bring any questions you have for Devon for discussion.
- Mike Nelson of the San Diego River Conservancy will be at the next meeting to discuss the River Trail and USDRIP. Mike will be attending at the request of Robin.
- Fire District Update – Mark distributed the Draft Project Budget for the New Fire Station to the stakeholders. There were some questions and comments about the budget. DPLU staff will review and determine if this Project Budget is sufficient to move forward for the District to procure the first amount of funds per the cooperation agreement.

- With regard to Keyser Marston, USDRIP consultant, negotiations should begin soon for their specific work for the Redevelopment Agency and DPLU. Initially, we intend to have them prepare the same “numbers” report they have prepared for USDRIP before. It would appear that with the state of the economy and the bond market (or lack of a market) we will not be issuing bonds anytime soon. Carl discussed with stakeholders that the new state budget would have a percentage “grab” of our redevelopment funds (not be returned), and it will now exceed \$100,000.
4. Next Meeting – Thursday, November 20 at 9am at the Lakeside School District Offices. Devon Muto, Chief of Advanced Planning and Mike Nelson from the San Diego River Park Conservancy will be at the next meeting.